

Atty. Docket No. 244768US2CONT
Inventor: Masahide Nakaya
Preliminary Amendment

REMARKS

Favorable consideration of this application, as presently amended, is respectfully requested.

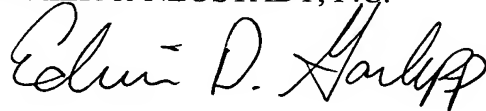
Claims 13-37 are presently active in this case, Claims 1-12 canceled, Claims 13-37 added, and the specification amended by way of the present preliminary amendment.

The present application is a continuation application of, and claims priority under 35 U.S.C. §120 to, Serial No. 10/18,140, filed April 9, 2002 ("the parent application"). Thus, the present preliminary amendment amends the specification to incorporate the parent application by reference as suggested by The Manual Of Patent Examining Procedure.¹

Accordingly, an examination on the merits of Claims 13-37 is believed to be in order, and an early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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¹See M.P.E.P. §201.06(c) Incorporation By Reference.